From: Durant, Jennah [Durant.Jennah@epa.gov]

Sent: 3/9/2018 4:30:10 PM

To: R6Press [R6Press@epa.gov]

Subject: Daily News Digest, Friday, March 9

Attachments: Daily News Digest 0330918.pdf

## 1 — Lake Pontchartrain basin being monitored for spillway environmental effects, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/8/18

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2018/03/army corps of engineers lake p.html#incart river i ndex

Officials with several federal agencies and the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation have begun monitoring the environmental effects of opening the Bonnet Carre Spillway to lower water levels on the Mississippi River by moving part of its flow into Lake Pontchartrain.

## 2 — The Oklahoma Energy Resources Board attained goals during 2017, its annual report states, The Oklahoman, 3/9/18

http://newsok.com/the-oklahoma-energy-resources-board-attained-goals-during-2017-its-annual-report-states/article/5586264

Mindy Stitt, executive director of the board, said the organization was happy to have cleaned up its 1,000th well site in Osage County during 2017.

### 3 — WIPP looks to redefine calculations for waste volume, Santa Fe New Mexican, 3/8/18

http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local\_news/wipp-looks-to-redefine-calculations-for-waste-volume/article\_06e8f005-5a88-5d10-b541-af9f56e4accf.html

Officials are seeking permit changes to allow more nuclear waste to be stored in an underground facility in southeastern New Mexico. Officials with the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad are looking to redefine how the volume of the waste is calculated.

# 4 — Sandbags, water dams at the ready as locals wait to see how high water affects Mississippi, Atchafalaya, Baton Rouge Advocate, 3/8/18

http://www.theadvocate.com/baton\_rouge/news/article\_172c5cd6-2318-11e8-b5b9-af5744732461.html Some local governments began taking early precautions Thursday for expected river crests on the Mississippi and Atchafalaya later this month as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also stepped up its own flood fight with the partial opening of the Bonnet Carre Spillway near New Orleans.

## 5 — 100 homes flooded after levee around central Arkansas town breaks, official says, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 3/8/18

http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2018/mar/08/100-homes-flooded-after-levee-around-arkansas-town/?f=latest Many residences in a small central Arkansas town are flooded after the levee around the town recent rainfall caused the levee to break, county officials said Thursday.

#### 6 — The environmental and human health effects of uranium mining, Investor Intel, 3/8/18

https://investorintel.com/sectors/technology/technology-intel/environmental-human-health-effects-uranium-mining/

<sup>\*</sup>Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.

<sup>\*</sup>To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.

This article focuses on global production of U by the mining industry since World War II, the environmental and human health effects of this activity worldwide, how procedures for containing waste from U mining have changed in the past 70 years although they remain of concern in many non-OECD nations, and the need for green engineering and green chemistry processes for separation and recovery of U, individual radionuclides, and individual associated toxic metals from waste and other streams.

# 7 — Texas Beach Watch reports high levels of fecal bacteria at three Corpus Christi beaches, Corpus Christi Caller-Times, 3/9/18

 $\frac{https://www.caller.com/story/news/local/2018/03/08/texas-beach-watch-reports-high-levels-fecal-bacteria-three-corpus-christi-beaches/408200002/$ 

Spring break is just around the corner, which means there will be a lot of people heading to the beach for some fun in the sun next week. But before beachgoers jump in the water, they should be aware of some not-so-friendly creatures floating around the water along the coastline. And we don't mean jellyfish.

### 8 — EPA Awards School Districts DERA, KOAM, 3/8/18

http://www.koamtv.com/story/37682844/epa-awards-school-districts-dera

Schools districts in Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri are included in an \$8.7 million award to replace or retrofit older diesel school buses. Each of 141 school bus fleets in 32 states will receive rebates through the EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funding.

### 9 — San Antonio's CPS Energy faces criticism on clean energy strategy, San Antonio Express-News, 3/8/18

https://www.mysanantonio.com/business/eagle-ford-energy/article/San-Antonio-s-CPS-Energy-faces-criticism-on-12739579.php

San Antonio's public utility, CPS Energy, faced blowback from city leaders and environmental groups Thursday on its newly released strategic power plan that takes decades to fully transition to renewable sources of energy.

### 10 — Rick Perry seeks new path to save coal, San Antonio Express-News, 3/8/18

https://www.expressnews.com/business/eagle-ford-energy/article/Rick-Perry-seeks-new-path-to-save-coal-12737124.php

Energy Secretary Rick Perry is pushing the development of a new generation of coal power plants while seeking to slash spending on technology that many government officials and analysts view as critical to coal's survival in a low-carbon world.

### 11 — Meet Claire. She can see a little methane leak from space, E&E News, 3/9/18

https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1060075901

The world's first space-based system to help identify specific sources of greenhouse gas emissions is now circling the Earth. The main unit in the network is a package of state-of-the-art sensors launched by the European Space Agency in October. By December, it had begun to map plumes of methane, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide and various aerosols over industrial facilities and cities as it passed over Europe, Asia, Africa and South America.

# 12 — Non-profit hopes to open outdoor classroom in swamps by Spanish Lake, Baton Rouge Advocate, 3/9/18

http://www.theadvocate.com/baton\_rouge/news/article\_172c5cd6-2318-11e8-b5b9-af5744732461.html A nonprofit intends to turn the wetlands around Spanish Lake into an educational destination. Students and scientists have thousands of marshy acres to explore, and because the site has been used as an oil field, there are already roads leading into the swamp.

# 13 — Dallas to Houston high-speed rail plan reaches end of public input Friday, Dallas Morning News, 3/9/18

 $\frac{https://www.dallasnews.com/news/transportation/2018/03/08/dallas-houston-high-speed-rail-plan-reaches-end-public-input-friday}{}$ 

As the public input period comes to a close for a proposed high-speed rail line from Dallas to Houston, North Texas transportation planners are unveiling potential stops for a connector route.